ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL AUCTION #1

MAIL & FLOOR BID AUCTION
TO BE HELD AT THE ORIGINAL
HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY MEETING
Saturday, January 7, 1995

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

In order to foster more interest in original hobo nickels (those carved prior to 1981, and especially those carved prior to 1957 by "Bo" and "Bert"); to generate increased membership in the Original Hobo Nickel Society (OHNS); and to offer collectors the opportunity of owning an original specimen, I have decided to put 30 pieces from my personal collection up for sale through this auction. A large percentage of the 30 lots are works done by Bo or Bert, and most of the pieces are of very high quality, many exhibiting "raised" or "pushed" metal features.

Each has been certified and registered as an original by OHNS (Del Romines), and the Registration form and photo will accompany each lot sold. **The descriptions for each lot are taken from the above Registration forms.**

The following outlines the rules of the auction:

1. Mail and floor bids will only be accepted from **paid-up members of the OHNS.** (See application form on page 16.)

2. No unlimited mail bids will be accepted.

3. The bidder's OHNS membership number **must** be included on all mail bids. This number will also be your floor bidding number.

4. All lots will open at a figure approximately 20% **below** the highest mail bid.

5. There will be **no buyer's fee** on lots sold, but postage and insurance charges will be added to all winning mail bids.

6. All payments must be made by **check or cash only,** with checks being made out to **Bill Fivaz.**

7. **All mail bids must be received by December 21, 1994.** Send bids to: Bill Fivaz, P.O. Box 888660, Dunwoody, GA 30356.

8. A list of the Prices Realized will appear in the first BO TALES following the auction.

9. **10% of the hammer price for each lot will go to the OHNS to use as the board determines.**

10. All sales are final, and payments must be made promptly.

LOT #1
R-039

A relatively rare combination of carved outlines, punched hair, and dimpled field design. The fag (hobo jargon for cigarette butt) is occasionally used as a device on hobo carvings. This coin was used as one of the cover photos of the original hobo nickel book, and is also pictured on page 45 in the book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #2
R-040

A delicately totally hand carved art work which displays the use of the broad tipped flat chisel for carving the feathers. Most broad tipped flat chisel work was accomplished by "BO" between about 1960-63. The small ornate feathers on the headband were made with a narrow tipped flat chisel. This coin is pictured on page 92 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: _____

LOT #3
R-041

Chisel and brush marks indicate that the coin was probably totally carved between 1960-63. The tone indicates that this may have been one of the coins which was treated with chlorine to darken the coins. The chlorine toning was used in the early to mid 1970's. This coin is pictured on page 92 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #4
R-042

A relatively rare signed relearning coin which was made by "BO" between 1958-1963. His initials indicate that it was probably done 1959-1960. A broad tipped chisel was used for outlining, punches for the hair and ear, and the strong brush marks for removing burred edges from the broad chisel, are all indicators for the 1958-63 coins. The decorative feather which normally indicates "Monique's Beau" (Marcy) is visible. This coin is pictured on page 100 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #7
R-045

Broad tipped chisels, chlorine tone, and wire brushing indicate that this carving was a pre 1963 carving of the relearning coins by "BO." The quality (excluding the field cleanup) indicates the coin was probably carved in late 1962. The coin is pictured on page 44 of the original hobo nickel book as a non "Bo," but has since been proven to be an authentic "Bo" relearning coin.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #8
R-046

Considering the tools available for "Bert's" use in prison, this carving is actually a superior carving. It is believed that this may be one of his earlier carvings after entering the chain gang in Georgia in 1932. It was thought at one time that this carving was a tribute to "Bert" by "Bo," but markings which identify "Bo" carvings are not present. This coin is pictured on page 46 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #9
R-047

Relatively fine line carving lines, broad tip flat chisel lines, and brush marks indicate this carving was probably done in 1963. Probably chlorine toned in the early to mid 1970's. This coin is pictured on page 83 in the original hobo nickel book..

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #10
R-048

This carving is one of the better ones in the series of carvings which were made between at least 1929 and 1936. Several similar carvings exist during this period of time, of which some have carved messages and locations. This coin is pictured on page 40 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #11
R-049

"Bridge Snakes" (Hobo jargon for a construction worker) identified on hobo carvings by the hard hat which normally depicts the "air holes" in the hat. This carved and punched coin is the second best known example, and is pictured on page 46 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #12
R-050

Markers indicate this carving was made prior to a hand injury in 1957. The quality of carving indicates it was a "rush" carving, of which many were made during WW-II. Very slight wear on the obverse is consistent with the reverse, and the coin was probably an AU coin when it was carved. This coin is pictured on page 77 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #13
R-051

"Bo" always portrayed the Amish male by using a very thin hat brim, and a beard only. It is believed this carving may have been done in the late 1930's, or may have been one of the WW-II carvings. A fine point chisel was used to cut delicate hair, but little if any dress work was accomplished in the field. This indicates a hasty carving. This coin is pictured on page 46 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #14
R-052

Totally carved work resembles that of both "Bo" and "Weasel," but no positive identifying markers visible. The raised metal is not as dramatic as many raised metal varieties by "Bo," but does have some similar wire brushing. Some slight circulation wear microscopically visible. This carving is pictured on page 40 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #15
R-053

A totally carved, highly dramatic and delicate raised metal hat brim, and raised metal stubble. The ear style resembles that of "Weasel," but the art work appears to be superior to his known carvings. Some circulation wear is evident on the cheekbone, ear, and hat brim. This carving is pictured on page 16 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #16
R-054

Originally thought to be a "SHOP TOKEN," but does not meet the carved requirements of "Jewelers Quality" to be considered as a "Shop Token." The ear style and general appearance is that of "Weasel," and could be his carving of "Berg." The carving appears to be a chisel/knife carving, and displays a small amount of circulation wear on the cheek. A scratch which resembles "OL" is in the field to the left of the collar. This caring is pictured on page 41 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #17
R-055

Totally carved with broad tipped chisels, and wire brushing, indicates that this coin was probably carved in 1963. This is probably one of "Bo's" better "Relearning Coins." The tone is not from chlorine, but probably from storage in a high sulphur content envelope. This carving is pictured on page 85 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #18
R-056

Totally carved with minor raised metal hat brim and ear. The field of the carving was only lightly dressed which indicates this was a "rush" carving. "Bo" did several rush carvings during WW-II to meet the demands. This coin is pictured on page 16 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #19
R-057

Even though a hastily (probably about one hour or less) carved coin by "Bert," it is the best known copy for the study of "Bert's" methods which he developed over a period of 34 years for producing carvings rapidly. This coin is pictured on page 25 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #20
R-058

An authentic "Bo" relearning coin which was made with a broad tipped chisel and punch. This is one of the first carvings which "Bo" placed his initials on after his hand injury in 1957. Considering the quality of coins which he produced during this period, this coin would be considered as an above average, but for his total works, it is only average. The scar on his temple may either represent an injury, or may have been a slip of the chisel. This coin is pictured on page 102 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #21
R-059

A double carving in one sense – carved into the field is "FOUND LOUISVILLE, KANS 1944." The style and quality of art work resembles that of Weasel, and may have been a portrait of an individual. May be a chisel & knife carving, but light circulation wear prevents total determination. The tone resembles that of storage in leather. This coin is pictured on page 48 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #22
R-060

Broad tipped chisel used for outlines, and a punch for the hair and ear. It is believed that this carving is that of a "look alike" named "Ralph," and is based on the shape of the nose and the style of head gear. Ralph reportedly wore a baseball type of cap most of the time (similar to Ralph on pg. 48 in the original hobo nickel book). For the time span in which the coin was carved, this is actually a superior carving, but for "Bo's" normal work, it is only above average. This coin is pictured on page 102 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #23
R-061

Totally carved obv/rev, and resembles the art work of "Weasel," but with more talent. Carved beneath the bison and "hog" is "BOES EXPRESS." Obv/rev carvings are quite rare, and only four locomotives have been seen on coins to date. The reverse of this carving is pictured on the cover of the original hobo nickel book, and the obverse on page 47 in the book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #24
R-062

A nice but lightly raised metal carving. Even though most indicators point to a "Bo" carving, one set of marks which are used to positively identify "Bo's" work is not present. If a "Bo," it was probably carved during the WW-II period. Some very light circulation wear is visible on the hat brim and ear. This carving is pictured on page 41 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #25
R-063

Both "WC" & "Bo" stated that "Bo" had made many carvings of Greek Athletes from books which "Bert" forced him to read and study. A broad tipped chisel was used for outlining, a punch was used for the hair, and the surfaces were heavily wire brushed. Considerable detail was attempted on the mouth. This coin is pictured on page 100 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #26
R-064

Even though the art work is similar to that of "Bo," the ear, eye, nose and lack of dressing of the field indicate the work of "Weasel." This is possibly the best work of "Weasel" which has been confirmed. Soft metal, a sharp chisel, or both probably played a part in the quality of this totally carved coin. This coin is pictured on page 41 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #27
R-065

Totally carved with moderately raised metal ear which shows signs of deep carvings around and in the ear. The artistic work is very good and resembles "Bo's" work, but lacks "Bo's" artistic ability, and does not have the normal "Bo" markers. The tone appears to be that of a coin stored on top of something which was impregnated with some type of chemical. This coin is pictured on page 41 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #28
R-066

One of the later and much higher quality relearning chisel and punch coins by "Bo" after his hand injury in 1957. The quality of the fine line carving and the wire brushing indicate the coin was probably carved around 1962-63. The tone is similar to those which were chlorine toned and stored in tobacco cans. This coin is pictured on page 82 in the original hobo nickel book. (Ref BF #2).

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #29
R-067

Carved with a fine tipped chisel and punched coin which shows very little wire brushing. This coin was apparently an experimental piece which is evidenced by the hair line being chisel outlined prior to punching. The detail on the eye and lips would indicate that this carving was probably made in 1962-63. The tone is that of the chlorine treated and stored in a tobacco can. This coin is pictured on page 97 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

LOT #30
R-068

Considered by Willard "WC" Chisolm as being one of the best likenesses of "Bert." The lack of cleanup in the field indicates this was a hasty carving which was relatively typical of "Bo's" work during WW-II. Even though a hasty carving, the detail in the hair and ear are with extreme care. Very minor circulation wear is visible on the cheek, ear, and brow. This carving is pictured on page 79 in the original hobo nickel book.

Sold at: $ _____

THE ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 43 • MALVERN, PA 19355

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

PHONE _____

MONIKER (NICKNAME) _____

_____ PLEASE CONSIDER ME FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY, INC. AS INDICATED:

OR

_____ PLEASE RENEW MEMBERSHIP NUMBER _____ AS INDICATED:

* * * * * *

_____ LIFE MEMBER $150.00

_____ REGULAR MEMBER (ONE YEAR) $10.00

_____ YOUTH MEMBER (UNDER 19 YEARS OF AGE) $5.00

I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE SOCIETY'S CODE OF ETHICS.

SIGNATURE _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **THE ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY**

PLEASE SEND TO: O.H.N.S. ATT: "BO-ETTE"
P.O. BOX 43
MALVERN, PA 19355

** ADD $12.00 AND RECEIVE A BEAUTIFUL CLUB TEE-SHIRT" **

MAIL BIDDING SHEET

Note: Please bid in whole dollar figures only (no cents).

Please refer to bidding rules on page 2.

Lot #1	_____	Lot #16	_____
2	_____	17	_____
3	_____	18	_____
4	_____	19	_____
5	_____	20	_____
6	_____	21	_____
7	_____	22	_____
8	_____	23	_____
9	_____	24	_____
10	_____	25	_____
11	_____	26	_____
12	_____	27	_____
13	_____	28	_____
14	_____	29	_____
15	_____	30	_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

OHNS Member # _____ (MUST include this for bids to be honored)

All bids must be received by DECEMBER 21, 1994.

Mail Bids to: Bill Fivaz
P.O. Box 888660
Dunwoody, GA 30356-0660

Bill Fivaz
P.O. Box 888660
Dunwoody, GA 30356-0660

ORIGINAL HOBO NICKEL SOCIETY

AUCTION #1
January 7, 1995

PRICES REALIZED

1 -	600.00	16 -	275.00
2 -	350.00	17 -	100.00
3 -	375.00	18 -	375.00
4 -	150.00	19 -	700.00
5 -	200.00	20 -	325.00
6 -	550.00	21 -	375.00
7 -	225.00	22 -	200.00
8 -	950.00	23 -	500.00
9 -	150.00	24 -	300.00
10 -	275.00	25 -	150.00
11 -	600.00	26 -	250.00
12 -	525.00	27 -	250.00
13 -	525.00	28 -	325.00
14 -	300.00	29 -	250.00
15 -	350.00	30 -	850.00

TOTAL: $ 11,350